4th March 1955]

Distribution of water from Malampuzha Reservoir.

* 1072 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the arrangements made for distribution of water from the Malampuzha Reservoir to ryots of Akathethara and Kadukkankunnu amsoms in Palghat taluk, Malabar; and

(b) whether there has been any complaint with regard to this and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU:—" (a) & (b) On a complaint received from the Praja Socialist Party and the Palghat taluk Kisan Panchayat about the improper distribution of water from the Malampuzha Reservoir, a report has been called for from the Collector of Malabar. The Collector's report is awaited."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP:—" Even before the Malampuzha Reservoir was constructed, there was what was called one Naicken Canal and the cultivators had prescriptive right for water to cultivate about 400 acres. Now the Tahsildar constituted a Committee for looking after the distribution of water but that is not functioning. When complaints are made to the Tahsildar, he says; 'I have nothing to do with it.' The result is that people go without water. Will the Government see that some arrangements are made for proper distribution."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU:—" Yes, Sir. Some black-marketing in water is alleged and as soon as the report about it is received, I shall examine it and set things right."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM:—" Is it not a fact that the majority of the people there do not make use of the water in the Malampuzha Reservoir? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU:—" They do not require water when there is rain. When there is no rain, they require water."

Firkas under National Extension Service Scheme.

* 1073 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of firkas under the National Extension Service now in the State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" One hundred and twelve."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN:—" May I know the policy of the Government in the matter of extending the National Extension Service and whether the Government have examined the question of extending it to the Tindivanam Division? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I cannot give an assurance to the hon. Member that particularly the Tindivanam area will be taken up for the execution of this scheme. But the Government will consider that also."